## SUMMARY REPORT OF INVESTIGATION<sup>1</sup>

### I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Date of Incident:	March 11, 2016
Time of Incident:	4:16 pm
Location of Incident:	
Date of COPA Notification:	May 12, 2017
Time of COPA Notification:	9:44 am
"), attended a political prote.  At some point, the de "), who was assigned to raltercation then occurred between punched him on the face, we grabbed her and hit her several time acknowledged that he grabbed Ms	
Involved Officer #1:	of Appointment 1999, Police Officer, Unit 1908, 1966, male, white
Involved Officer #2:	of Appointment 2002, Police Officer, Unit DOB 1977, male, Hispanic
Involved Individual #1:	, DOB , 1970, female, white

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> On September 15, 2017, the Civilian Office of Police Accountability (COPA) replaced the Independent Police Review Authority (IPRA) as the civilian oversight agency of the Chicago Police Department. Therefore, this investigation, which began under IPRA, was transferred to COPA on September 15, 2017, and the recommendation(s) set forth herein are the recommendation(s) of COPA.

#### III. ALLEGATIONS

Officer	Allegation	Finding / Recommendation
Officer	1. It is alleged that on or about March 11, 2016, at 4:16 p.m., at or near star # used excessive force when he hit with a baton, in violation of Rules 8 and 9.	Not Sustained
Officer	1. It is alleged that Officer did not complete a Tactical Response Report (TRR) for an incident that occurred on March 11, 2016, at approximately 4:16 p.m., at or near in violation of Rule 10.	Exonerated

#### IV. APPLICABLE RULES AND LAWS

#### Rules

- 1. Rule 8 Disrespect to or maltreatment of any person, while on or off duty.
- 2. Rule 9 Engaging in any unjustified verbal or physical altercation with any person, while on or off duty.
- 3. Rule 10 Inattention to duty.

#### **General Orders**

- 1. G03-02 Use of Force
- 2. G03-02-01 Force Options
- 3. G03-02-02 Incidents Requiring the Completion of a Tactical Response Report

#### V. INVESTIGATION<sup>2</sup>

#### a. Interviews

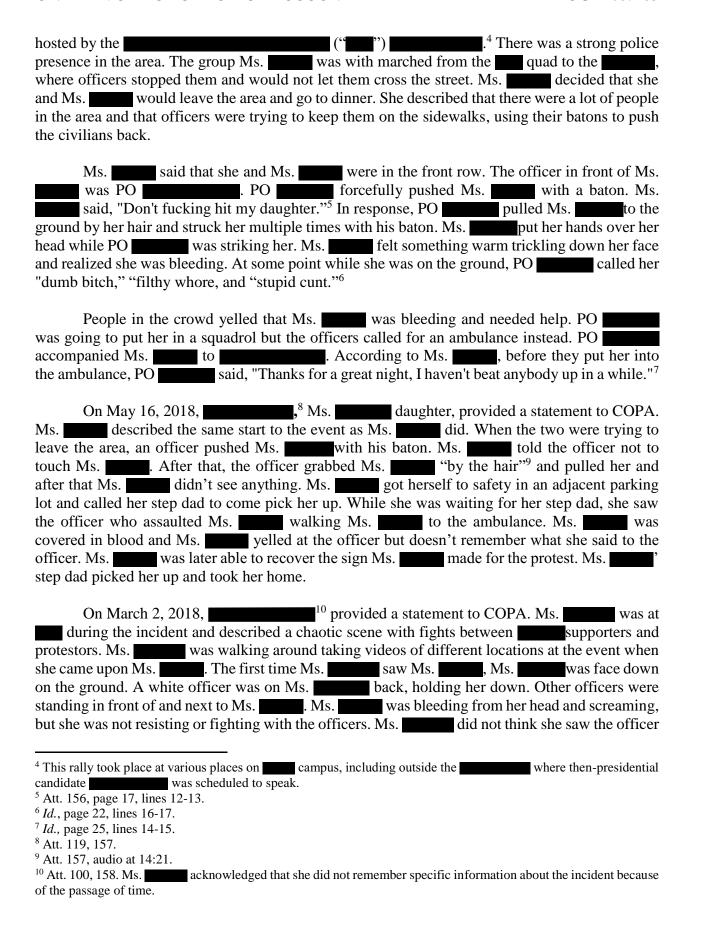
#### i. Civilian Interviews

	On February 17, 2018, <b>complainant</b>	<sup>3</sup> provide	ed a statement to COPA
Ms.	related that on March 11, 2016, she and her d	daughter,	, attended a rally

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 $<sup>^2</sup>$  COPA conducted a thorough and complete investigation. The following is a summary of the material evidence gathered and relied upon in our analysis.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Att. 96, 156.

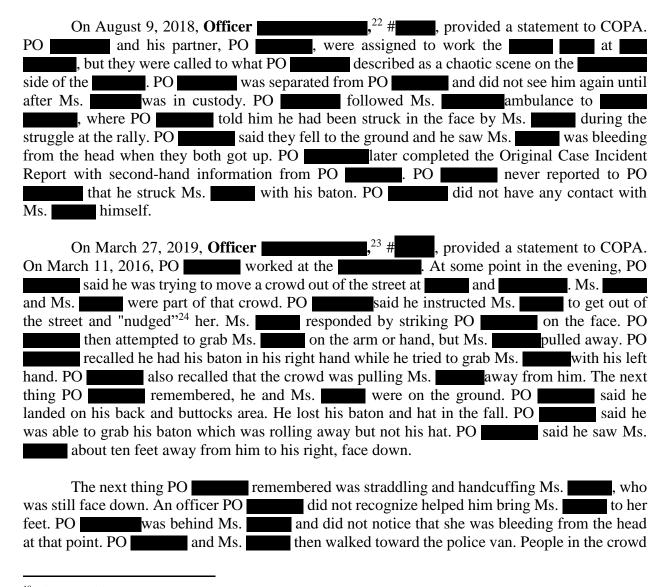


strike Ms. I in the head with the baton, but the crowd was yelling that the officer hit Ms. with the baton. Because Ms. was bleeding from the head, Ms. assumed that was true. Ms. did observe the officer forcefully holding Ms. down with the baton. ii. Medical Personnel Interviews On March 29, 2018, two Chicago Fire Department paramedic EMTs, <sup>12</sup> informed COPA that they did not recall any patients they transported and I during the rally. On October 11, 2018, Nurse provided a statement to COPA. On March 11, 2016, Nurse was working in the emergency room at and was assigned as Ms. primary caretaker. Nurse said Ms. had a bandage on her head when she arrived at the hospital in police custody. Nurse observed a large head wound near Ms. forehead/hairline and some bruising. Ms. told Nurse an officer hit her on the head with a baton. Nurse could not determine if the head laceration was caused by Ms. being struck with an object. <sup>14</sup> provided a statement to COPA. On On December 5, 2018, **Doctor** March 11, 2016, Dr. said he was the attending physician at and treated for a scalp laceration and contusions to her right hand and left forearm. Ms. reported that she was assaulted and hit on the head. Dr. opined that the scalp laceration was consistent both with someone being hit with an object and with them falling to the ground and striking their head on a stationary object. <sup>15</sup> provided a statement to COPA. Dr. On September 6, 2018, **Doctor** is an Emergency Room doctor at Sound at the hospital in police custody for a wound check and for the bandages to be changed. Dr. observed a laceration to the top of Ms. head that had already been treated with eight staples. Ms. told Dr. that she was at a protest and was hit with something. Dr. noted that the injury could have been sustained by being hit with something or by falling, and that she could not determine how Ms. sustained her injury. On April 27, 2018, **Doctor** provided a statement to COPA. At the time of the interview, Dr. had been Ms. primary care doctor for approximately 5 years. On March 16, 2016, Ms. went to see Dr. and reported that she had been beaten by "the police" at a rally where she and her daughter were caught between the crowd and the police on the scene. Ms. told Officer that she was "struck down to the ground and <sup>11</sup> Att. 116. <sup>12</sup> Att. 117. <sup>13</sup> Att. 145, 162. <sup>14</sup> Att. 147-148, 154. <sup>15</sup> Att. 143, 153. Dr. did not have an independent recollection of treating Ms. but she used the medical records and photographs to refresh her memory. <sup>16</sup> Att. 113, 155.

<sup>17</sup> Att. 155, page 4, line 3.

dragged."<sup>18</sup> Dr. below observed multiple injuries to Ms. including a laceration to her scalp and deep abrasions to her knees. He described those injuries as "profound, serious"<sup>19</sup> and said it was "inconceivable"<sup>20</sup> that these injuries could have been sustained by a fall. It was Dr. assessment that the injury was consistent with being struck with an object.

### iii. Police Officer Interviews<sup>21</sup>



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> *Id.*, page 6, lines 20-21.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> *Id.*, page 8, line 14.

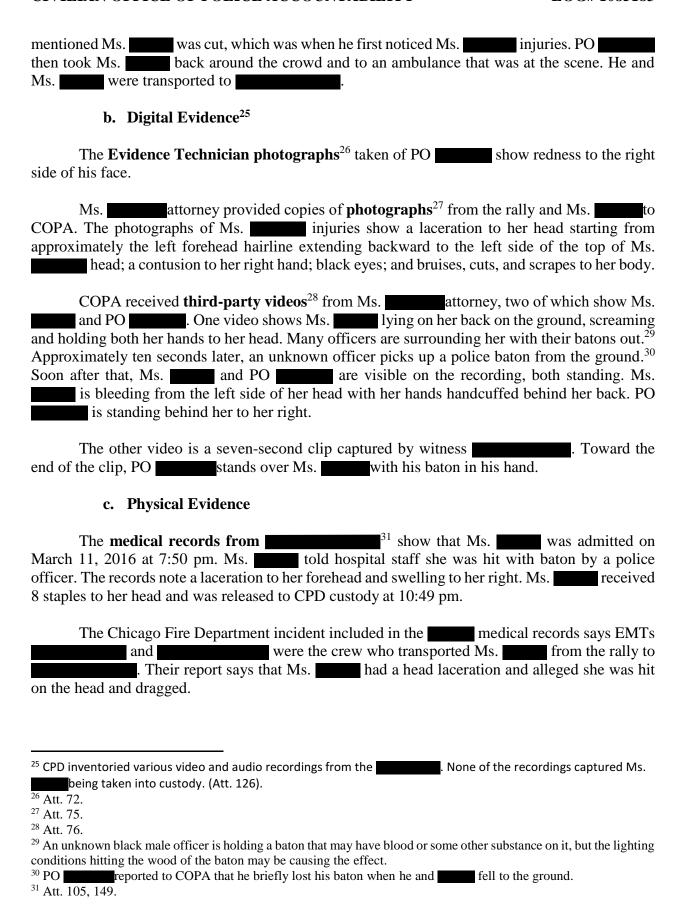
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> *Id.*, page 8, line 20.

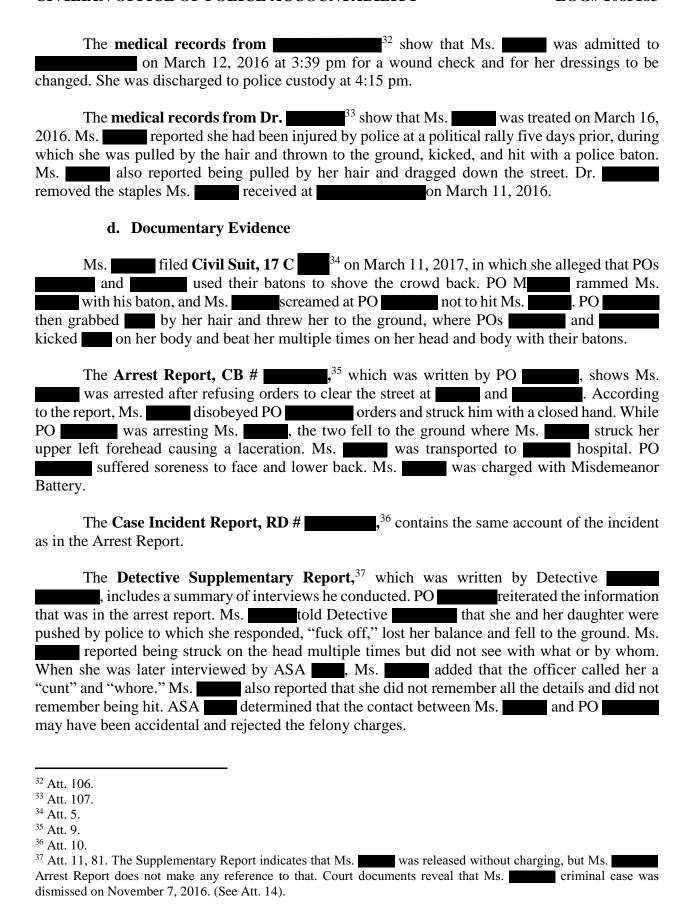
In separate statements to COPA, Officer , # and Officer , # an

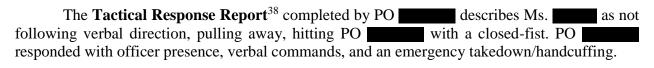
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> Att. 138, 159.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> Atts. 165 audio interview part 1.; 166 audio interview part 2.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> Att. 165, audio interview at 25:26, "not smacking her, not hitting her, just moving her along."







The **Officer Battery Report**<sup>39</sup> completed by PO documents that he sustained an on-duty injury when he was struck by a female offender.

#### VI. **LEGAL STANDARD**

For each Allegation COPA must make one of the following findings:

- 1. <u>Sustained</u> where it is determined the allegation is supported by a preponderance of the evidence;
- 2. Not Sustained where it is determined there is insufficient evidence to prove the allegations by a preponderance of the evidence;
- 3. Unfounded where it is determined by clear and convincing evidence that an allegation is false or not factual; or
- 4. Exonerated where it is determined by clear and convincing evidence that the conduct described in the allegation occurred, but it is lawful and proper.

A preponderance of evidence can be described as evidence indicating that it is more likely than not that the conduct occurred and violated Department policy. See Avery v. State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Co., 216 Ill. 2d 100, 191 (2005), (a proposition is proved by a preponderance of the evidence when it has found to be more probably true than not). If the evidence gathered in an investigation establishes that it is more likely that the misconduct occurred, even if by a narrow margin, then the preponderance of the evidence standard is met.

Clear and convincing evidence is a higher standard than a preponderance of the evidence but lower than the "beyond-a-reasonable doubt" standard required to convict a person of a criminal offense. See e.g., People v. Coan, 2016 IL App (2d) 151036 (2016). Clear and Convincing can be defined as a "degree of proof, which, considering all the evidence in the case, produces the firm and abiding belief that it is highly probable that the proposition . . . is true." *Id.* at ¶ 28.

#### VII. **ANALYSIS**

a) Regarding the a when he hit	llegation that Officer with a baton;	, star #	used excessive force
_	has given varying accounts of alleged that both POs ir batons. When speaking to AS	and	kicked her and beat her

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>38</sup> Att. 6.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>39</sup> Att. 7.

## VIII. CONCLUSION

Based on the analysis set forth above, COPA makes the following findings:

Officer	Allegation	Finding / Recommendation
Officer	1. It is alleged that on or about March 11, 2016, at 4:16 p.m., at or near , Officer , star # used excessive force when he hit with a baton in violation or rules 8 and 9.	
Officer	1. It is alleged that Officer did no complete a Tactical Response Report (TRR for an incident that occurred on March 11, 2016, at approximately 4:16 p.m., at or nea in violation of rule	r

Approved:

	June 24, 2019
Andrea Kersten	 Date

Deputy Chief Administrator – Chief Investigator

# Appendix A

Assigned Investigative Staff

Squad#:	
Major Case Specialist:	
Supervising Investigator:	
Deputy Chief Administrator:	Andrea Kersten